

Many of Marc's brothers in arms have commented on what a fine soldier he was and how he always held a positive attitude—even in the toughest of conditions.

Marc was a soldier to his country, a friend to many, but most of all, he was dedicated to his family. Marc's memory will carry on in the hearts and souls of his proud parents, Jerry Whisenant and Elizabeth Cook, and his beloved sisters, Michelle and Monica.

My colleagues, please join me in recognizing the life and service to our Nation of Marc Whisenant. We are forever grateful as a Nation for Marc's service and sacrifice, and my deepest condolences are extended to his parents, family and friends.

RECOGNIZING TENDAJI W. GANGES AND THE OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, on October 28, the Office of Educational Opportunity Initiatives at the University of Michigan-Flint celebrated its 15th year.

The Office of Educational Opportunity Initiatives was established in 1995 as part of Student Support Services. Its Mission statement is: The mission of EOI is to foster changes in institutional services and climate enhancing the ability of the University of Michigan-Flint to identify, recruit, serve and graduate students of diverse backgrounds with a particular emphasis on students from under-represented groups including non-traditional, educationally and economically disadvantaged, and those from urban and rural areas where college access and completion rates are significantly below the national average.

The Office operates 5 pre-college programs, 5 college programs and a diversity unit. Over the past 15 years the Office has expanded and now serves over 2,000 students annually.

Mr. Tendaji W. Ganges serves as the Executive Director of the Office of Educational Opportunity Initiatives. A product of the "Upward Bound" program implemented by the Higher Education Act of 1965, Mr. Ganges credits early college exposure to his success. He works tirelessly to enhance the access, impact and achievement of underrepresented groups in higher education. Mr. Ganges is an active participant in over 30 local and regional organizations. He is deeply committed to creating a gateway to higher education for all.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great honor to recognize the Office of Educational Opportunity Initiatives and Mr. Tendaji W. Ganges for their work with the educationally and economically disadvantaged. Mr. Ganges and his staff are deeply committed to turning the dream of higher education into reality for thousands of students. I congratulate them on 15 years of successful work and hope they continue assisting students for many, many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF HARRIS AND JOSEPHINE SMITH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today, the 50th wedding anniversary of Harris and Josephine Smith.

Harris was born July 12, 1941, and Josephine was born March 14, 1943, both in Ohatchee, Alabama. They first met at Ohatchee High School when he was in the 8th grade and she was in 6th grade.

On December 9, 1960, they were married in Ohatchee.

The couple raised one son, Robert Smith. Mr. Smith worked as an engineer with the Alabama Department of Transportation for 37 years. Mrs. Smith was a Business Education Teacher in the Calhoun County Schools for 30 years. Both are active in their church with Harris serving as a Deacon and Josephine playing the piano.

The Smiths are proud grandparents of Courtney Smith and Cassidy Smith.

On December 3rd, an anniversary celebration and dinner party will be held at Hill Crest Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama with over 100 friends and family members.

I salute this lovely couple on their 50th year of their life together and join their family in honoring them on this special occasion.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN ALBERT BROWN

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Albert Brown, a World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor who, after celebrating his 105th birthday on October 26, is reported to be the oldest living veteran of World War II.

Albert Brown was born in North Platte, Nebraska, in 1905. After his father was killed in a railroad explosion, Albert's family moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he was a four-letter athlete in high school as well as a member of the ROTC. Albert went to Creighton University where he again excelled in athletics, continued his ROTC training and received a degree in dentistry.

In the late 1930's, as the world was preparing for war and Albert Brown was raising his family and building his dental practice, he received the call to report for active military duty. After training recruits at different army bases in the U.S., Albert shipped off to the Philippines in 1941, just before the attack on Pearl Harbor. He was with the force of nearly 70,000 Allied troops that surrendered to the Japanese in Bataan and he became part of the infamous Bataan Death March.

One of Albert's personal recollections of the Death March was when he faltered and wound up at the back of the line of prisoners. A Japanese soldier bayoneted him in the buttocks

and ordered him to speed up. After this, and witnessing what happened to others who could not keep the pace, Albert said he never got near the end of the line again.

After surviving the Death March, Albert was put on one of the ships bound for POW internment on mainland Japan. While in transport, the prisoners were again deprived of nutrition, water and medical treatment. Albert survived the transport and would spend the remainder of the war as a prisoner of war. During this time, in addition to withstanding bitter cold and lack of nutrition, Albert described routine beatings at the hands of his captors. Albert was once struck with the butt of a rifle, causing fractures in his neck and back. Medical treatment was not an option, so Albert was forced to heal on his own until he was physically able to resume labor.

After the Japanese surrender, Albert came home to the U.S. and spent two years in a hospital where doctors treated an assortment of medical ailments resulting from his years in captivity. On discharge, one of the doctors told him to go home and enjoy himself because he would surely never see 50. At 105, Albert Brown, who now makes his home in Pinckneyville, Illinois, not only proved that doctor wrong but stands as a remarkable example of indomitable human spirit and survival under the most dire of circumstances.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Albert Brown for his dedication and tremendous sacrifice in service to his country and to wish him the very best in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF OHIO CITIZEN ACTION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 35th Anniversary of Ohio Citizen Action, a non-profit, grassroots, non-partisan, citizen action organization whose main focus is protection of our environment.

Founded in 1975, Ohio Citizen Action has 80,000 members of all ages and backgrounds. Ohio Citizen Action inspires action and involvement through door-to-door and phone banking campaigns that communicate news and information to communities, and empower and organize citizens on a wide range of issues and projects with a focus on making our world a better place.

From organizing against companies that violate environmental laws, to implementing the "Good Neighbor Campaign" that utilizes elements of community organizing, Ohio Citizen Action's true grassroots activism continues to inform, empower, strengthen and protect our entire community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the members and leaders, past and present, of Ohio Citizen Action as they celebrate their 35th anniversary.